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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES FROM THE
DRAPER COLLECTION

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES FROM THE DRAPER COLLECTION

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MISCELLANEOUS NOTES FROM THE DRAPER COLLECTION

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St. Clair's Campaign

At perhaps Indian Wheeling opposite mouth of Wheeling Creek, he (Maj. Bedinger) joined the army & took the command of his battalion. He was a rigid disciplinarian, and took pride in drilling his men several hours daily - no section of the army presented a more soldierly appearance than his battalion. Shortly anterior to the fatal battle of the 4th Nov. '91, as he was suffering severely from his rheumatism, he was detached in the dangerous and difficult service of returning to Ft. Jefferson with a party of invalids - some 15, among whom were a Capt. Lewis, a surgeon Dr. Johnson, of Rhea's battalion, & a Lieut. Vance and was not in the battle, his battalion was however, and fought valiantly & out of 330 that day, fully one third were killed & wounded in the action.

In re-organizing the army under Wayne, again Maj. Bedinger was placed at the head of a Virginia battalion. He repaired to Pittsburg, and engaged at once in the arduous work of drilling his men to a quick and ready use of fire arms, the discipline of camp and that of battle. In the Spring of (93, after the army had reached Fort Washington, having married a young lady in Ky, he resigned his commission and left the army. This was his last military service. While at Pittsburg they wd frequently engage in sham fights. In conducting one of these one day, some officer came to Wayne informing him of an Indian attack on such a portion of the camp or army &

desiring his further orders. Some ladies present, thinking it all in reality.

When Bedinger, by the advice of St. Clair, Gen. Butler, Col. Darke & other officers returned to Fort Jefn. they found not a particle (p. 62.) of food of any kind, & were compelled to proceed in to Fort Washington. They left the army that 1st Nov. They proceeded slowly, for some were unable to make great exertions. Indians were scattered every where along the trace & extreme caution was necessary. While in camp a piece from the road, Bedinger had ordered out sentinels - Dr. Johnson rediculed the idea. he wasn't afraid of all the d——d cowardly rascals in the country nor is my horse afraid sarcastically replied Bedinger. The next morning the report of a gun was heard not a great distance from camp, & now a man came running in with the intelligence that a pack-horseman, with corn for Fort Jefferson had just been shot and scalped - Bedinger & Vance went to reconnoiter & ascertain the number of the Indian party, & found the number could not have exceeded three. While the Dr was making inquiries of the man who brought in the intelligence, Lewis and Vance, who had a great contempt for the braggart Johnson, stopped a little outside in the rear of the camp & fired off their guns & gave the Indian whoop on purpose to that his courage was they expiated, he put spurs to his horse and came dashing by Bedinger who asked "what's the matter/ - Said Johnson Indians! by God, Indians, & never stopped until he reached Fort Washington, who reported when he reached there that the whole party were fired upon & he believed

all were killed (A couple of days after Bedinger & his band came in & the next the broken remains of the army.) Jokes came so thickly upon Dr. Johnson that he found it convenient to leave shortly after.

Jonathan Clark Papers

Draper MSS, 2L

p. 33

Dear Sir.

GreenVille May 25th, 1794

I have never yet had the honor of a line from you. Tho think it my duty to wright to you by every Opportunity. This is the fifth or Sixth letter that I have wrote to you. Oftener I could not find an opportunity as I have been nearly 3/4 of my time on Commands. I arrived at this place only three days ago, after a rigorous command of five months, greater part of the time at Vincinnes and on the Wabash River it appears that all action & Laborious commands fall to me. This lsdy comd. was not only Labor but I like to have Starved. I was_____ up on the Wabash River 20 days, without a supply of provisions, is the Disagreeable Situation. I had once more to Depend on my Rifle for Subsistants - on my return met with no Dificulty in assending the Ohio. My flank Guard (p. 33[1]) routed several small parties of Ind. from the River but killed none. after stayend some time at Fort Washington I was ordered to escot 700 Packhorses on theire way to this place, ladined with clothes and provision for this army. I had under my command about 60 infantry and 20 Dragoons. at about 18 miles advanced of F. Washington my advance Guard, consisting of one Corpl. & 6 infantry in front followed by 1 Serj. 1 Corp. & 15 Drago was attacted by about 60 Indians. The Dragoons charged, surported by the Infintrey of the advance. The fireing

lasted about 15 minuts, untill I surported the Van Guard with the remainder of the infintrey from the reare of the convoy. at the Sight of the reinforcement the Indians retreated in confusion, leaving behind them on killed of rifles, forty odd Blankets & a quantity of Provisions & &c. Several Indians supposed to be killed & wounded, as they bled plentifully in Several places. Our loss was 8 men killed and 2 wounded.

In the confusion of the Packhorses, a few of them left the road, and was mounted by Indians in their retreat. (p. 33[2]) My _____ for my disposition and officer like conduct in the mentioned fray has not been sufficiently rewarded (no credt. for my disposition only for my surporting the front Kissing goes by faver) An officer under my rank, a passenger who attempted to Charges but found the Indians to numours retreated & Receaed the Lorels of that day - I have made a small aplication for an Independent core of Riflemen, if I get them shall continue in Service; if not I will resign. I was offered to day the Adjutancy & QrMaster to the 4th SubLegion- I have refused to accept - but a secont aplication from the Adjt. Genl pit me to a stand. The movement of our army is uncertain. I foare it will not get further this summer if we have a forward move it will be with but a handfull of men, not exceeding 1200 men, and the means of transportation is tended with to much Dificulty, labour and expence I fear we never Get supplyed in advance of this place. The Genl. Wayne Says he

will set out in a few days - change the rout & fall into the road that my Bro. George went in the year 1782. Should he cary the design into efect I then should have some hopes as the country (p. 33[3]) is much better for Transportation both by land & water - I am Sorry to inform you that there has been contending parties in this contonement - the whole winter past, and is not yet queld. I was at my fathers in March. They are all well - The expedition that was going against Louisiana, I believe is given out. The Spaniards is much allarmed; a Fort is now building at Massac near the mouth of Ohio by neare the mouth of Ohio by Order of the President. The Cicasaw Indians are often there. I have now under my charge 17 Chickasaw Warriors. They will Set out in a few days to war against the Maimie Tribes. I hope you will favour me with a line when you can make it conven't as I shall always be glad to here from you. prey wright freely your Sentiments respecting my miss conduct that you may has herd of me (Tho I think you have herd now).

By an express just arrived from Vincinnes Genl. Wayne as well as my Self is informed _____ that Gov. Simco with 3 Regt. of Regulars, Some Militia and a number of Indians are at Rogue De Bue the Indian Towns neare the mouth of Maimi River (p. 33[4]) with intention to _____ Genl. Wayne. The commanding officer likewise informs that the Shawanese have Reinforced the Garrison of New Madrid (Gen. Clark's Expedition), (50 miles below Ohio) with 150 Regular Troops five Galleys, each 60 men have all the Militia under pay with a vast number of Indians for the purpose of opposing Genl Clark in an expedition against their country.

Prey excuse the state in which I wright. I am now in Genl. Waynes Guard. The first Guard I have mounted on this Ground owing to my having don the Most duty in the Sublegion. Since my journey, but duty is now so have that. The greater part of the Staff Officers are Detached for Guard Duty -please present my respectable compliments to my Sister, Bro; Edmund & friends - I should have wrote to my Brother, but have no time at present.

I remain_____ obt. Servt.,

Wm. Clark

I am Lieut. in the 4th Sublegion, if you will address your letter to any Garrison that Gets it.

Jonathan Clark Papers, 2 L.

p. 34:

Gen'l Wayne's Victory

Grand Glaze on the Maiemi of the Lakes

August 28th, 1794

Deare Brother

I take the opportunity of wrighting to you by one of the Capts of the Legion going to Philadelphia, as it may be intercsting to you to here of the situation of the Army & its progress previous to this date. On the 29th of July the American Legion and about 1700 mounted Volunteers took up the Line of march from GreenVille 80 miles acvanced of Fort Washington. We moved rapidly with our Baggage quite secure both on the line of march & encampment. Our line of march has the Infantry formed into to two wings & marched in two columns - on the flankes of the Baggage of _____. the Riflemen Light Infantry & Dragoons Equally divided in front Flanks & reare of the Columns at verry open order, the Volunters (or militia) one Battalion in front, the remainder in reare & flank the greater part of the time - our camp was secured at night by strong logg & brush works, that was threw up by Each Compy, of Infantry & making Squares of about 400 yards. the Light Troops threw up works by companies at propr distants from each other sufficient to contain Each Compy at 300 yards, from the Squaro, & furnish a Guard (p. 34[1]) and purfect security to the camp. The Volunteers camped in Supporting distance of the Legion. our move forward was generally 10 miles pr. day thro flat marshoy country.

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Some time up to the waist in mud and water, at other times making cross-ways of 200 yards long -, at St. Maries River, 14 miles advanced, we built a small Fort, a joining a buterlde & large Plains - here one of the Milita diserted to the Indians & gave the Information of the approach of the army they at that time was entirely igeront of. one the 9th of Ins. we think the Glaze River a dew miles above this found all the Towns from that place diserted, appearantly left in confusions our army then took possession of the pint. here built a fort & _____ four days. all our Legion & Volunteers during that time did not distroy the vast quantity of Corn & vegatebles in view of the Fort - Genl Wayne kept out spies in Different directions to make discoveries., wher the Indians had retired to. - the Spies that was Sent to Rocheu de bout discovered that Indians army camped at that place, & took two prisoners, that gave some information. Genl. Wayne then sent a Flag to the Indians offering them piece on Sertain terms, Allowing to himself the privalage of marching (p. 34[3]) & building whre he pleased. The answered, but wished time to collect in council for the porrpose. Our army then moved on to attack't them. on the 19th we halted and build a strong work to Deposit the baggage of the army. at Six miles distant from Fort Miamis a British fort, neare which the Indians lay in ambush. an Cort of the action or the 20th the army moved early,

entierly devested of Baggage, down the Miamis River on the North Side a part of the Voluenters on the Left flank at 9 oClock our advanced Guard & spies was attacked and obliged to give way (on the edge of a plains) The Legion then formed for action in two Lines, the Light Troops in front not able to Sustain the attact was nearly Surrounded, a charge was then ordered which carried all before them for nearly two miles. The Cavelroy charged with Great Suckess, almost to the walls of the fort, at almost the same moment that the action commencing on the right & in front it was on the left where I led a column of Riflemen. We drove them with the same suckess, Killing both Indians & Canadians, but few of the Milita was in action, there not being a Sufficiency of the Enemy for the Legion to play on. our Loss on this ocasion was Capt. Miss Campbell of Dragoons, & Lt. H. Towls, killed and 24 regular Troops - 3 Militan Killed & (p. 34[3]) about seventy regular troops & militia wounded amongst whom was Capt. Stough Trier, Van Ranselis, Leut. Smith, after dressing the wounded ' sending them back to the deposit the army moved on & camped under the cannon of the British post. Where we continued two days during the time several messages pass betwen Gen. Wayne & the British Major Campell, the Condt. of the Post. the Genl ordered them off. The Genl. ordered them off. The Comit replied that as he had been ordered to that place he could not leave it without orders. The third day our army returned to the deposit and yesterday to this place after marching down 50 miles defeating the Indians & camd Milita army

consisting in all to 2000 men & Killing about 100 besides the wounded, and on the return cuting down and destroying hundreds of acres of corn & Burning several large Towns besides small ones. We are to continue here some time, large comd. let out tomorrow for Provisions, _____ & report says that we progress towards the Maiumis Village & Waubash. I have nothin more at present, prey wright to me. I wish much to quit Servus but cant whilst our army cround with suckess (p. 34[4]) and our Friends was wile about a moth past.

Please to present my compliments to Sistr. Clark, Miss letter & friends, and believe one to be with_____

Wm. Clark Lt. U. S. L ___

Genl. Jno Clark

North the Brittish post mentioned is strong built with turf & Sods, defended by about 250 men & fifteen cannon.

WHC

2 L - p. 36

Deare Brother-

Greeneville 23rd November _____

By Mr. Dangerfield I take the Liberty of writing to you. in my last letter to you from Fort Defiance I informed you the progress & sucksess of our army. Since that period we have taken possession of the Miamis Village the place where General Harmar fought. there we have built a large Fort and left 300 men under the command of Lt. Colo. Hamtramck and by a circuitous Rout return'd to this place on the _____ and we arehere _____ for the winter. The Indians of St. Duskey previous to the arrival of the army at this place had sent in foure Embasiders to Know if they could Treat & on what Terms. The were answered & two sent back to the nation to bring them in this place. The messengers said they should return on the 20th, but no account is heard of them yet.

The British are raising new Regiments in Cannida and all the Light Troops are on there way from Quebeck to Upper Canida the last account they were at Niagiria Fort, what the British can mean (p. 36[1]) is yet undetermined. it appears as if their intentions were hostile by moving in such large force so near our army. Should they back the Indians our Little army will not be able to oppose them as we are much weakened by Death Desertion and the men times are daly expiring & they will not reinlist in so Fatigueing a Service. I have some intentions of resigning and get into some business in Kentucky

or on the Mississippi. my wish is on the Mississippi. I think there is great oppening for an extensive & sucksessful Trade in that River could a man form Valuable Connections in New Orleans which _____ _____ could be accomplished, particularly at the early period. I have remained in anxious hope of receiving a letter from you but I have not had the Pleasure of Receving one. in my last letter to you I requested you to send me some articles of clothing &c. If you have not sent them I would thank you not to send them, but if you have already Started then it will be entirely immaterial as they _____ should I be disposed to quit Service.

I have not heard from Kentucky for some time cant inform you how they are. please to present my compliments to _____

William Clark, Lt.

****

p. 37

Dear Sir.

Greene Ville November 25th 1794

In my letter to you from Grand Glaze I mentioned the profress of our army to that time. Since that date we have taken possession of Miamis Villages & Built a large garrison & Deposited 300 men, & return'd by a Circuitous rout to this place on the first Inst. The Kentucky Voluenteers ware sent home from the Miamis Village after having escorted several large ' valuable supplies of provisions.

The Legion is stationary at this place for the Winter and I feare by the Spring that our number will be but few as we do not exceed 1000 effective men present, and those daly going off Discharged & will not reinlist as the Service has become so sevear in Escorting provisions from the Ohio to the out Garrisons that the men can't under go the Fatigue & live on the present allowance of Provisions aded to that the present Guard that is so large our Legion affords scarce a Releaf. (p. 37[1]) The Indians are continuly commiting depredations around us. I have not heard from Kentucky Catertry, but believe they are in a peacable state, as far as respects Savage hostilities.

Sir I am Sorry to inform you that the army has become disagreeable to me and could I get into any business in a civil capacity I would bid a deus

to this unthankfull unpolish'd service. I have deturmund to resign & seek for some more honourable employmt for my youthfull days - prey wright to (me) when every you can make it convenient. I have expected with pleasure to receve a letter from you but I have never had the honor of the recept of one. our freinds in Kentucky were well three months past. Since that _____ I have not heard from them.

By an express this day from Fort Defiance (or Glaze) we areInformed that our Troops Desert fast from that post and that advertisements are found about the fort stuk on the Trees inviting the American Soldiery to go and Joing the Royl American Remunt (possibly means regiment) under the command of Col. Simco. This appears to be a low method of reducing the Am. Legion & filling their Regimt. Some Indians t at came in from the St. Duskey have returned to there Country to bring there nations to Treat at this place. The are (p. 37^2) to be here on the 20 Int. but no account has been herd of them and it is doubtfull with me, if they are not Spies, but I will write you more fully in my next letter.

present me with everry true affection to my Sister Clark & Friends, and I remain with every affection & sentiment of_____ yr. most obdt. & Humble Servant.

William Clark.

(The above letter to Gen. Jonathan Clark.)

p. 42

Extract of a letter Wm. to Jonathan Clark, 24 Aug 1796:

"I have resigned and can give you but little of the news of the army. I am told by an officer in Town that the American Flag was hoisted at Detroit on the 12 of last Monuth and all the other posts on the lake are taine possession of soon (?) The party in the army rages more violent than ever. the two Genls are going to Philadelphia. Genl Wilkinson is on his way up the Ohio."

DRAPER NOTES

Draper MSS

16S

Drapers Notes, vol. 16S,

p. 163.

Christopher Miller - Capt. Saml. Brady - Maj. McMahon

From MS Paper of Gen. Anthony Wayne, in possession of Joseph J. Lewis, Esq.- West Chester Pa. - Nov. 27, '60.

Deposition of Christopher Miller - 1794: Says he is aged about twenty four years, born in Chester County, Pa, that he removed with his parents to Kentucky, to Salt River, where he was captured by the Shawanese Indians in 1782, with whom he has continued ever since, until the 13th instant when he was recaptured by a party of Gen. Wayne's spies.

Drapers Notes, vol. 16S

p. 163

Col. Dr. Shepherd writes to Gen. Wayne, Ohio Co. Va. Sept. 2d 1792: "Sometime past I saw Capt Beady, & he informed me he had an appointment to _____ the spies belonging to Pennsylvania. If you shd. think it proper, I am of opinion that it wd. be of great service if he was likewise to overlook the spies belonging to this county, as they wd. be much better kept to their duty, & might be of more service to the public. We have had no disturbance for sometime past with the Indians."

Drapers Notes, vol. 16S

p. 163

Maj. Wm. McMahon, writes Charlestown, Aug 29th 1792, to Gen. Wayne - that he has just recd. a (p 164) letter date the 19th instant. from a person he has engaged in the recruiting service at Gallipolis who states, that the Indians are very troublesome in that part of the froniter; they attacked a scout of the regulars, took one man & scalped another who is like to recover; & that Mr. Meldow, a French gentleman, was out with a few militia, & discovered a small party in ambuscade, & as one of the Indians rose to fire, Mr. Meldon fired first & shot the Indian through, but having a small party durst not pursue them. The Indian bled very much. As the general opinion of the inhabitants was that there was not less than one hundred and fifty Indians in the different parties of that quarter, as they have drove away a number of their cattle."

Drapers Notes, vol. 16S

p. 164

Maj. Wm. McMahon to Gen. Wayne.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you of the return of Captn. Brady from the Indian Country, who went out the 9th of this month with George (p. 165) Tulles & Thomas Dillow, two of the Scouts from Pennsylvania, and Lewis Tucker, a volunteer, and John Williamson & Alexander Mitchell, two Scouts from this county, with a view of taking a prisoner. They crossed the Ohio River at the mouth of Yellow Creek at the time I have mentioned, and proceeded a few miles up the North Fort of the Creek & then crossed over to the waters of Muskingum, & proceeded on over Muskingum on the Sandusky trail to Kashockton Creek, where they discovered two Indians in their camp. On Friday the 19th instant early in the morning they attempted to get up to them without being discovered, but owing to the dryness of the leaves, the Indians heard them & were alarmed - one of the Indians approached towards them with his dogs. Williamson & Mitchell fired on him & shot him through the breast and neck, which immediately put an end to his existance.

Captn. Brady pursued the others, but was (p. 166) not so fortunate as to overtake him. Williamson the evening before this, happened, was out with Mitchell viewing the Indians in their camp, & hearing them talk observed that from the voice of one of them, he must be an Indian who was one of the

party who killed his friend of the name of Jaes Boggs in January, 1791, while he way laying under the same blanket with him in the woods, & when Williamson proceeded to scalp him, he discovered him in possession of Boggs gun, shot pounch, & powder horn, which they brought in.

I am sensible Brady could not be accompanied b more proper men than Williamson and Mitchell. They both have, on several occasions, shewed that they were fully qualified for such an undertaking. Williamson was with Brady on his last trip to Sandusky. They regret exceedingly as they were sensible it was your wish, that they did not succeed (in taking a prisoner).

On my return home last from Fort Pitt, (p. 167) I intended fully to have gone out on a scout, but as Brady and his party were out, I thought it most prudcent to wait their coming in. On Sunday next I have ordered a number of men to meet me with a view of going out, & then should we be fortunate enough to fall in with a party of Indians, I flatter myself that we shall be able to take a prisoner. I have the honor to be, Sir, &c.

Wm. McMahon

Maj. 4th Sub Legion

Ohio Country, Oct. 28th, 1792

To Gen. Wayne, Fort Pitt.

Capt. J. Haskell writes, Marietta, Aug. 20, 1792, "Accounts, not official, from Gallipolis say, fifteen Indians rushed into the town, scalped one soldier & took another prisoner."

Lieut R. L. Howe, stationed at Gallipolis, writes to Gen. Wilkinson, & a copy sent to Gen. Wayne, under date Aug. 23d 1792: "On the 13th inst our scout of a corporal & four men while returning from their daily custom of reconnoitering the fields & protecting the inhabitants while (p. 168) at work, were fired on on their return at 6 O'clock P. M. by a party of Indians within half a mile of the garrison. Adam Miller of Capt. Hughe's company, was shot through the body, left arm & scalped, notwithstanding which he came in by himself, & is in a fair way to recover. Richd. Stacey, of Capt. Kirkwood's company, was taken prisoner; the corporal & other two came in safe, with the loss of a gun and some clothing. The blockhouses were immediately put in order for action. The Indians continue around us constantly, & we together with the inhabitants are constantly prepared to receive them, though it is with great difficulty Capt. Rowe can persuade them of the danger they have to apprehend. On the 18th a W. Taylor with three others was driven from his field by ten Indians, & obliged to leave his team, a party immediately went out & recovered it, & Lieut. Maldon, of the militia, under pay, shot an Indian through the body, but he unfortunately made his escape; they tracked him by the blood some distance, (p. 169.) until he got into a thicket of brush and logs upon the hill, by which means

they lost the trail. On the 19th we were suddenly alarmed by the appearance of Indians at the Chickamauga Creek, about a quarter of a mile from the Fort, We immediately prepared to receive them. Upon their finding themselves discovered, they disappeared. Eighteen men under the command of Capt. Rowe went out & discovered many signs, and we had every reason to suppose a large number of the enemy near us, as their scounting parties have taken away cattle & robbed many fields of corn. We are penned up within half a mile circumference, and should the enemy continue around us any time, the inhabitants will be in a starving condition.

On the 20th the spies from this place & four from Kayhaway made an excursion as far as Racoon Creek; they returned yesterday, & discovered the trail of the main party about one hundred in number - they passed Racoon (p. 170). & took a course for the Salt springs; they also discovered trails of smal parties returning this way in pursuit of cattle that had got away from them. The greatest harmony prevails between the troops & inhabitants.

The enemy have lately taken five horses from Elk, killed a family of five or six at Short Creek, & wounded a Mr. Carpenter, of Carpenter's Station, near Short Creek, and robbed him of three horses. It is very sickly at this place, ague & fever prevail very much, & the troops are almost destitute of clothing.

Draper notes, vol. 16S.

p. 170 continued:

Col. Absolom Baird to Gen. Wayne - Washington, Pa. 21st July, 1792.

Sir: Inclosed is a copy of a letter I received the other day from Captain Samuel Brady b which you will see that the intention of their mission was not fully answered.

The parties he mentions have since struck on our frontier, & have killed & scalped seven persons; & on Wednesday last, a soldier belonging to Capt. Paull's company of Six Month's militia, was fired on by (p. 171) two Indians & wounded thro' the hand, but escaped. This happened on the road about half way between two of the stations.

The inhabitants of the frontier have either fled into the settlements, or have gathered together into block-houses, and are in great distress, having left their crops &c standing.

In my opinion, a few more spies would be necessary if they can be allowed the present ones having too large a range."

(No enclosure in the above letter L.C.D.)

Draper notes, vol. 16S.

(p. 171 continued)

John Scull writes Pittsburg, July 18th, 1792, to Gen. Wayne at same place, that "Capt. Samuel Brady who has been some distance in the Indian Country, I am informed is arrived in town, & consequently made report to you of what discoveries he has made." Asks for the intelligence, if consistent with the public interest, to give in his next Gazette to the public.

(p. 171 continued)

Col. Dd. Shepherd, Ohio Co. Va., July 15th 1792 to Gen. Wayne. "Spies have been sent out to the Indian town, & I have just recd. information that they (p. 172) have returned, but have not yet received the particulars of their mission, which when done, I shall give you information.

I have to inform you, that three persons have been killed by the Indians on Tuesday last about 11 o'clock, about 4 miles from my house. They crossed about 4 miles below the mouth of Wheeling, & immediately returned. The persons killed were James Anderson & wife, & a certain Cornelius Bevand.

I am credibly informed, that a party of Indians crossed at the mouth of Fish Creek on Friday last, and that they took away a number of horses; a small party followed them, but I have not yet heard the result."

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